

Filed for intro on 02/02/95  
House Bill \_\_\_\_\_  
By \_\_\_\_\_

Senate No. SB1395  
By Gilbert

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2 and Title 65, Chapter 1, relative to the election of members of the public service commission.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-1-101(a), is amended by designating the existing language as subdivision (1), and by adding the following new subdivision:

(2) After January 1, 1997, there is a commission consisting of three (3) members, with one (1) member to be elected from each region as established pursuant to this section. This commission shall be known as the Tennessee public service commission.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-1-101, is amended by adding after subsection (c) the following new subsection, and by relettering the subsequent subsections accordingly:

(d) At the November general election in November, 1996, a commissioner from the Eastern Tennessee region shall be elected by the qualified voters of the East Tennessee region. At the November general election in November, 1998, a

commissioner from the Middle Tennessee region shall be elected by the qualified voters of the Middle Tennessee region. At the November general election in November, 2000, a commissioner from the West Tennessee region shall be elected by the qualified voters of the West Tennessee region. The term of office for each commissioner shall begin on the first day of January after the commissioner's election. Thereafter, a commissioner shall be elected every two (2) years to succeed the commissioner whose term expires next after the election.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-1-101, is further amended by adding the following new subsections:

( ) The state planning office is hereby authorized to design three (3) substantially equal and contiguous regions utilizing the most recent federal census data from which candidates for the public service commission shall run for election. In designing the regions, no county shall be divided. The state planning office shall submit its design of the three (3) regions to the respective speakers on the first day of the 1996 legislative session and every ten (10) years thereafter for enactment into law by the general assembly.

( ) Nothing in this act shall be construed to amend the grand divisions established by Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 1, Part 2.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.